

ASCC
Media Center



**American Samoa
Community
College**

Published by
ASCC Journalism
Students at the
ASCC Media
Center

**Special Election
Run-off Issue**

EXTRA! EXTRA!

**ONE ON ONE
WITH THE
CONGRESSMAN
AND
GUBERNATORIAL
CANDIDATES
TAUESE AND
TOGIOLA**



by: *Ioapo Taua'i Jr.*

As Journalists in the only institution of higher learning in American Samoa, we took the challenge to bring the issues not only to the college students but to the community as a whole. Letters of invitation were sent to each run-off Congressional and Gubernatorial candidates to participate in a debate. Instead, we settled for one on one interviews with runoff Congressional candidate Faleomayaega and Gubernatorial candidates Tauese and Togiola.

Unfortunately, Leala and Afoa declined the invitation due to prior commitments. And Gus Hannemann was unable to attend due to a family funeral and other commitments. The Journalism class wanted to compile these interviews into a special run-off election issue of Leo O Samoa, which were also taped and aired on cable T.V.

We contacted the Leala/Afoa and Gus Hannemann Headquarters last Saturday before presstime. Only Gus Hannemann responded.

Gubernatorial Candidate Team of Tauese & Togiola With Journalism Students and Instructor Mrs. Ring. (From L/R Sala P- Pamata S- Janis V SGA Pres. Taua'i Ioapo Jr. Lt. Gov. Tauese - Sen. Togiola - Marianne R.)
Photo by: Vito Samoa News

SGA Petition

Whereas the Accreditation Team, which visited ASCC last week, recommended that a library to cover academic needs for a bachelor's degree is essential for ASCC's accreditation,

and

whereas the student body of 1500 college students needs the library for daily academic pursuit,

and

whereas ASCC is presently affiliated with three United States university programs: Golden Gate University, San Diego State University and University of Hawaii, and need research material for affiliated students,

and

whereas ASCC's library is presently being utilized by students from the five surrounding high schools, several elementary schools and the community:

and

therefore, we the undersigned students and faculty of American Samoa Community College, who are all voters, hereby petition that the executive order, to place the new library in Utulei, be repealed and that the library be placed on American Samoa Community College Campus.

Leo O Samoa

Fall Semester 1996
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Leo O Samoa is written by students at the American Samoa Community College as a learning experience. The Journalism class is happy to share this paper with the student body, the faculty and the community, but please bear in mind that this is not a professional newspaper.

Remember to

VOTE!

VOTE!

VOTE!

VOTE!

VOTE!

VOTE!

**Only YOU can change
YOUR world**

EDITORIAL

by: Marianne Ring

The French Revolution was instigated by students so were many other historic events, which led to social change. One memorable uprising in modern times was the "Free Speech Movement" on the University of California Campus in Berkeley. This rebellion developed into the Civil Rights - and anti Viet Nam War Movements. As late as last week, a new generation of students demonstrated against the referendum on affirmative action, on that very same campus.

ASCC had its first experience in student political activities, this past week. The SGA (Student Government Association) took the initiative to petition the Governor to repeal the executive order to build the new library in Utulei, and instead place it on ASCC Campus.

It all started when the journalism class was laying out the last newspaper, which had a lot of campaign material from the congressional and gubernatorial forums held at ASCC. The possibility of a rerun election was mentioned, and the students immediately took the initiative to have debates with the run-off candidates, with the purpose to publish a special run-off election issue of Leo O Samoa (the issue you are reading right now!)

Unfortunately, not all the candidates accepted the invitation to debate, so instead the sessions turned out to be press conferences, one-on-one type interview, ala David Frost. These sessions were video taped by the ASCC Media Center and broadcast on American Samoa Cablevision Channel 5.

Influenced by the Accreditation Team's visit the week before and its recommendation that ASCC must have a much better library to get full accreditation, and the candidates conviction that the library originally was slated for ASCC, the students decided to circulate the petition.

It has been a truly rewarding experience to see the students realize that they actually have some power in the community, to see them pick up a challenge, take initiative and circulate the petition. To see their ability to become critical thinkers and educated voters was an educator's dream.

I would like to compliment every member of the journalism class for hard work and devotion. A special Fa'amalo and Fa'afetai for Papali'i Dr. Failautusi Avegalio for letting the students bring their ideas to fruition, to expand, to develop and to learn.

CLOSE-UP interview with RUN-Off candidates Tauese & Togiola

One of the Journalism students here on campus, was curious as to why Governor Lutali would endorse the Leala-Afoa team instead of endorsing his own Lt. Governor. In response to that question, Tauese stated that he really doesn't know.

Tauese explained that he could only speculate as to why the Governor decided to endorse the Leala-Afoa team, but out of respect for Governor Lutali, Tauese chose not to voice his speculations.

Tauese later did say that one of the issues that he and Governor Lutali didn't quite agree with was the location of the library.

Gubernatorial candidates Tauese and Togiola were asked about how they felt regarding the privatization of the Rainmaker Hotel and the KVZK television station.

Tauese stated that the privatization of the hotel should benefit the local people, instead of the outsiders. In his own words he said, "If the hotel is to be privatized, I would like our local people to invest in it to benefit their families."

The reason for this is because public corporation is needed and should be established by our local people to manage and operate the hotel. If local people owned the hotel they would take very good care of the hotel and the local people would have shares in it.

Lt. Governor Tauese and Senator Togiola were asked if it is feasible to increase airline flights into American Samoa from Honolulu, or secure the services of an additional airline to serve American Samoa. In response, he stated that then Governor Coleman said that we are a one airline territory. Tauese doesn't fully agree with that, but at this time the only control we have over Hawaiian Air is a certificate of convenience which dictates the number of seats per week, but not how frequent the airlines fly.

The gubernatorial candidates, Tauese and Togiola, were asked if they were in favor of a hospital authority, and if elected, what their plans were concerning the upgrade of the hospital.

Tauese exclaimed that he and Togiola are the only candidates who spoke up against the hospital authority. Tauese stated that many people have misunderstood his stand concerning the hospital. He is not against a new hospital, he's only against the idea of a hospital authority. He said, "I Strongly believe, and I will die with this belief, even if I lose the election because of this. Health and Education is the responsibility of the government."

Tauese stated that an authority is a business with clients who pay for their services. Tauese doesn't believe that people should be denied health care, due to the fact that they can't afford it. Tauese claims, "The day that one person dies at home because he can't afford to go to the hospital, the government is useless."

Togiola was in total agreement with his running mate Tauese. Togiola stated, "People are going to die at home because they cannot afford to be in the hospital. We can't afford to see that. We can't afford that for our people."

Tauese's response concerning a new hospital was, "How do we fund a new hospital?" As an alternative, Tauese suggested that we take the time to acquire the funds needed to construct a new hospital, yet in the mean-time, we improve what we've already got. Tauese explained that we need to renovate our facilities, get better equipment, and a good medical personnel. Tauese stated that we can't sit around waiting for a new hospital to be built. He suggests that we work with what we've got until a new hospital can be provided.

In response to the question about helping local construction companies be able to get local contracts and meet the bond requirement, the Lt. Governor responded that he would like to help the local contractors obtain bonds.

He said that money comes into this island from Washington and goes straight out again through big overseas companies. Tauese said that when he was removed from the CIP Board, it was assumed that contractors had to meet the requirements of CIP Board 570 Treasury Bonding List for highway jobs in American Samoa. He has later found out that that is not the case. American Samoa does not need to meet 570 bonding requirements. He also suggested that the Development Bank help set up funds for bonds for local contractors. Another solution would be for the Government to subcontract the jobs out to small construction companies.

The Gubernatorial Team of Lt Governor Tauese and Senator Togiola was asked if Agriculture and Land Grant could be combined to save money. Lt Governor Tauese stated that the possibility is there for both areas to be combined. What he would like to see is for agriculture to concentrate on practical projects and Land Grant to research. Senator Togiola added his concurrence with Tauese and said it is an idea that definitely needs to be looked at.

"I will die with this belief, even if I lose the election because of this. Health and Education is the responsibility of the government." Said Tauese

ONE ON ONE WITH CONGRESSMAN FALEOMAVAEGA ENI HUNKIN

by: Leo O Samoa Staff

Congressional candidate Faleomavaega Eni Hunkin held an interview with our Journalism class last week Tuesday. When asked about a youth center for our students, Faleomavaega stated that \$30 million of CIP program funds from Uncle Sam have not been utilized in American Samoa. He would like to see \$2 million of this go into building the stadium. He is also surprised that at this amount of money Samoa doesn't even have a gym. But his biggest need is a library. In conclusion Eni said that we really need to be accountable people and to use the money for its purpose.

Eni was also asked if there's any way we could vote for the president of the United States. He replied that the only problem is that we are U.S. Nationals, not citizens. And in order for you to vote for president you have to be a U.S. Citizen and a resident of the United States. Even if you are a U.S. Citizen and you live in Germany, Puerto Rico, Samoa, etc, you still couldn't vote for president unless you live in the United States or Hawaii.

In response to a question about if his office could do anything to move the new library to ASCC, Faleomavaega said, that the library was originally slated to be built on ASCC campus. The ASCC library was supposed to be the main library, with satellite libraries at all the high schools. It was meant to be the state-of-the-arts computerized center, that would use CD ROM and other modern equipment. The libraries in the high schools could be used by elementary schools and as public libraries. He was very surprised when the Governor changed his mind and put out an executive order to build the main library in Utulei.

Faleomavaega mentioned that it is not easy to get funds out of

Washington anymore. He quoted the Samoan proverb: "catch the bird but watch the wave." This meant that he can get funds from Washington but he has to be careful not to over do it.

In the United States each congressman represents 600,000 constituents, Faleomavaega represents only 50,000 which is the smallest constituency of all.

He quoted Ralph Waldo Emerson: "the year teach much, which the day never know." by which he meant that experience is invaluable. His seniority, which he considers very important together with his good working relationship with both Democrats and Republicans is a plus.

When Faleomavaega was asked, should American Samoa seek more federally funded programs, Faleomavaega responded in the last 8 years, American Samoa received \$548 million dollars from the federal government in grants, budgets, etc. He said if it hadn't been for Uncle Sam, we would be speaking Japanese or German.

The question is not whether we seek more federally funded programs, but are we being more accountable for what's being given to us. He stated we should not be begging. And considering we don't pay taxes to the U.S., it is unfair for the U.S. tax payers if we continue to be irresponsible and not being accountable for our funds.

Faleomavaega was asked about the growing population of Veterans in American Samoa who do not have a solid place by the government to take care of them after serving their country. Faleomavaega simply stated that his best advice to all veterans is to have a plan before coming back to Samoa. He realizes that the job market is limited here, but there are other options that the veterans have, such as the

opportunity to seek an education. A Viet Nam Veteran himself, Faleomavaega said he plans to work if he comes back to Samoa.

FRIENDS & LOVERS

Press release (Leslie McEwen)

The ASCC Opera Workshop class will again perform two evenings of song on November 21 and 22 at the campus auditorium at 7:00 p.m. The theme is **"FRIENDS AND LOVERS"** with pieces from opera, operetta, and musicals. Operatic selections will be from Puccini's *La Boheme* and *Manon Lescaut*, Mozart's *Magic Flute*, *Così Fan Tutte*, and *Don Giovanni*, Menotti's *Old Maid And The Thief*, and *Die Fledermaus* by Strauss. Showtunes spotlighted will be *Somewhere*, *Begin the Beguine*, *The Man That Got Away*, *It's A Grand Night For Singing*, and *There's No Business Like Show Business*.

The second half of the performance will feature showtunes from the still popular musical *"The Fantasticks"*. Three Opera Workshop students Fay Pele - Soprano, Sonny Leomiti - Baritone, and Brownie Tuiasosopo - Tenor will perform solos, duets and trios from this ever-popular show.

The admission price is \$3.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children. Other Workshop members performing will be Savali Ape, Lucky Tagaloa, Raymond Keleti, Leonard Fuaau, Lee Ruark, Sau Tuiasosopo, Tune Vaouli And Marlene Ring. Faculty members Leslie McEwen and Regina Meredith-Malala will also be featured. Linda Bauer will accompany.

GUS HANNEMANN SPEAKS

(The Following is an unedited press release from Congressional Candidate Gus Hannemann)

My Dear Blessed People of Tutuila and Manu'a:

As a result of the past election, we are now engaged in a run-off special election for the first time in 6 years. I wish to thank all of my aiga, friends, and supporters who voted and also those of you who voted for Aumua Amata Coleman, for together you have formed a majority vote that has agreed on the one major issue of this congressional election, that issue is, after 8 years of the same representation, the majority of the concerned voters of Tutuila and Manu'a want a change of that representation in Washington, D.C.

You, the majority, has spoken loud and clear: "It's time for change... a better life." It's time to give someone else a chance to represent American Samoa in Washington.

Even if I were not the fortunate candidate opposing the incumbent, I would endorse the candidate of change and stand by my word that Samoa needs a new and serious voice in Congress. Our office in Washington is too important, too vital to our lives to be won based on a popularity contest or on habit. Rather we should vote our conscience on what and who is best for Amerika Samoa at this critical time and place in our lives.

Thus, though we must appreciate and recognize our incumbent's time and service in Washington, we must also review and evaluate our standard of living from the past 8 years till now. The conclusion is the majority wants new representation.

I've always said that this race for Congress is not personal. I am not running against Eni Faleomavaega. Rather, I am running for the office of Representative. I honestly and truly feel that our office in Washington with such unlimited potential, and tremendous resources can do and must do much, much more for Amerika Samoa.

If I am your new Congressman, I will do more for Amerika Samoa.

Whatever my humble abilities have allowed me to help our people on an individual basis and our government as a whole, I shudder as my heart swells whenever I think of how much more can be done from the halls of Congress in our nation's capitol. Tutuila and Manu'a, this campaign is at a unique point with this special run-off.

All the facts and figures, issues and accomplishments should have been brought forth prior to the November 5th election. No significant facts or figures should have been held back because the public has a right to know and the candidates the time to respond. Therefore, any last minute 11th hour facts and figures that were seemingly held back for this unexpected run-off call for scrutiny and caution.

The timing begs the question, why now? For me, I have bared my heart and soul during the course of this campaign and I hope I was able to answer the two most basic questions: who is Gus Hannemann and why Gus Hannemann? My platform was based on honest, documented facts and figures and on my history of helping the people of Amerika Samoa whenever and wherever I was needed and the situation called for.

In every election each candidate offers a solution based on promises and projections. Everyone

has a plan. However, for incumbents, it is not enough to repeat those promises, the people need to know what happened to those past promises. They need to hear not only why things haven't changed, but also why not? There's a favorite saying by the late John F. Kennedy that goes something like this, Some people look at how things are the way they are and ask why? I dream of how the way things should be and ask, why not?

I will not consider our rights and entitlements as "hand outs" for I believe if we continue to represent American Samoans as third class subjects in Congress, we will continue to be treated as such.

I will continue to respect, work with, and seek the advice of our traditional leaders as I did while I served in the Fono as a Representative for Ituau County.

I will be present in Washington whenever votes for legislation affecting American Samoa are on the Congressional agenda.

I will be present here at home often to hear and feel the current concerns of our people by initiating "village/district meetings" I'll continue my "walk through" and visits to your homes.

I will give credit where credit is due as far as who or what agencies and departments really did the hard work and are responsible for federal funds, bringing in new businesses, etc. They've been overlooked for too long.

I will continue to help, assist and contribute to the community on a personal basis, I promise to return all calls and answer all correspondences in 24 hours.

I am the only candidate that can offer a New Voice for American Samoa in Washington. Before the November 5 election, I asked you the voters to take the time to go back in time and review the last 8 years of your lives. I ask you again to review and consider our federally funded roads, the hospital, our schools, and our station in life. No matter what new announcements of old dollar figures that have sprung forth this past week, **trust your own eyes** and look around our beloved islands. **Trust your own heart** and look at your children, your homes.

Do you recognize the same potholes and ruined conditions on the roads you and your children have ridden on for 8 years. Do your children still sit on the classroom floors without desks? How long can our hospital possibly accommodate a population that has more than doubled since it was built.

I pause to congratulate the administrators, staff and workers, past and present for their tremendous efforts made.

After reviewing all that, I ask that you ask yourselves one simple question: can we really, truly, honestly and optimistically look forward to another 8, 6, or 4 or even 2 more years of the same conditions?

If not, then it's time for change, it's time for a better life. Samoa, on the eve of this election we are at the doorstep of that change. It is a historic opportunity that must not be missed.

On November 19th we must rise up together and swing the doors of change wide open with a mighty thrust and usher in a NEW ERA of serious, positive and productive results for American Samoa.



American Samoa
Community College
Department of Music

presents



Friends & Lovers

An Evening of Showtunes & Opera Arias and Ensembles
plus selections from the Musical

"The Fantasticks"

**Featuring the Students of ASCC's
Opera Workshop**

**At ASCC AUDITORIUM
November 21 & 22, 1996
7:00 P.M.**

ADULTS - \$3.00

CHILDREN - \$1.00